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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC IMMEDIATE  
INFO RUEHBUL/AMEMBASSY KABUL PRIORITY 0007  
RUEHPW/AMCONSUL PESHAWAR PRIORITY 5871  
RUEHLH/AMCONSUL LAHORE PRIORITY 6944  
RUEHKF/AMCONSUL KARACHI PRIORITY 1281  
RHMFISS/CDR USCENCOM MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/JOINT STAFF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUMICEA/USCENTCOM INTEL CEN MACDILL AFB FL PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 ISLAMABAD 000559

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 03/16/2019

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [FK](#)

SUBJECT: LONG MARCH ROUND UP AS OF 1500 LOCAL TIME, MARCH 16

REF: A. ISLAMABAD 546

[B.](#) ISLAMABAD 547  
[C.](#) ISLAMABAD 548  
[D.](#) ISLAMABAD 551  
[E.](#) ISLAMABAD 552  
[F.](#) ISLAMABAD 553  
[G.](#) ISLAMABAD 554

Classified By: Anne W. Patterson, reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1.](#) (C) Summary: Early in the morning on March 16 Prime Minister Gilani announced former Chief Justice Iftikhar Chaudhry's reinstatement and th

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Islamabad  
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Zardari  
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[2.](#) (C) President Zardari called the Ambassador about midnight March 15. Zardari said that his advisors were strongly encouraging him to restor

PM Gilani  
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[3.](#) (SBU) In an early morning address to the nation Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani announced the GOP's decision to reinstate former Chief Ju

[4.](#) (SBU) Gilani also announced the GOP would file a review petition in the Supreme Court to seek a reversal of the order of disqualification a  
Nawaz Sharif  
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[5.](#) (SBU) In response to Gilani's statement, Pakistan Muslim League-N leader Nawaz Sharif publicly announced that he was calling off the long n

[6.](#) (SBU) In response to the Sharif,s call, would-be protesters turned jubilant in the streets of Lahore, Quetta, and Islamabad. All detained p  
Political Reaction  
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[7.](#) (C) Awami National Party (ANP) leader Asfundyar Wali Khan publicly congratulated the lawyers, movement and the Chief Justice. He said the p

[8.](#) (C) JI leader Qazi Hussain Ahmed gave a public address congratulating Nawaz Sharif and Iftikhar Chaudhry. He called on the nation to hold f

[9.](#) (C) The Sharif brothers' lawyer Akram Sheikh was less than thrilled by the decision. In conversation with Poloff, he was very cynical that

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Punjab  
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[10.](#) (SBU) Save the lawyers' celebration in front of the Lahore High Court, Punjab is quiet. Schools and government offices are closed and no c

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Sindh  
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[11.](#) (SBU) The mood of many opposition parties in Sindh is jubilant. Karachi JI President Mohammed Hussain Mehenti told post that restoration c

[12.](#) (SBU) Karachi Bar Association (KBA) President Mohammad Ali Abbasi was released from jail this morning. Sindh Minister Faisal Sabzari, who

[13.](#) (SBU) The mood among opposition parties in Quetta was also upbeat. The nationalist Pakhtoonkhwa Milli Awami Party (PkMAP) held the largest

[14.](#) (SBU) The Karachi Stock Exchange index of top 100 companies, the KSE-100, gained 5.2 percent, or over 300 points, on the news that the pol

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NWFP  
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[15.](#) (SBU) In the morning, a few lawyers danced outside the Peshawar High Court, where for the previous two days they had demonstrated and marc

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Military  
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[16.](#) (C) None of the Pakistan Army units alerted to support civil authorities during the march were deployed, and all other Pakistani Army unit

[17.](#) (C) There is a growing consensus among mid-grade Pakistani military officers that the Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Kayani, was the

[18.](#) (C) ODRP discussed situation with Director General of ISI (Pasha) and DGMO (Javed Iqbal) and found that both were relieved at the outcome.

PATTERSON